1st August 1933]

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—" Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state whether it is the order of the district board or of the President of the board? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" It is the unanimous resolution of the district board."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—" How many Mappilla members are on the district board? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" A number of them."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—" The hon. Minister stated that the question is under the consideration of the Government. May I ask how long will it take for the Government to come to a conclusion? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" I cannot make a prophecy; as quickly as we can."

Excise

Proposals for the reorganization of the Excise Advisory Committees.

*23 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there are any proposals to reorganize the Excise Advisory Committees; and

(*b*) if so, what they are and when they are likely to come into effect?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) With reference to the suggestions made by certain hon. Members in the course of the budget debate on the 'Excise' demand in the Legislative Council on 13th March 1933, the Commissioner of Excise has been asked to examine the question of the enlargement of the powers of Excise Advisory Committees. His proposals are awaited.

Number of liquor shops closed as a measure of prohibition.

*24 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(*a*) what the number of liquor shops is that remains closed now in each district as a measure of prohibition;

(*b*) whether prohibition was tried in complete taluks and districts and, if so, where;

(*c*) how many liquor shops have again been reopened in Salem district in April last and on what grounds;

(*d*) whether the Government have issued strict instructions to the Excise officials in the matter of putting down illicit manufacture and illicit sales of liquor; and

(*e*) if so, what they are?